

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

Two Chefs on a Roll

California Manufacturing Technology Consulting

Two Chefs on a Roll Reduces Costs and Creates New Jobs

Client Profile:

Two Chefs On A Roll, Inc., located in Carson, California, researches, develops and manufactures custom, traditional and exotic ethnic dips, sauces, soups, chilled and frozen desserts for specialty retailers and major restaurant chains. Founded in 1985, the company employs 228 people.

Situation:

Two Chefs on a Roll had a steady track record of increased sales and wanted to refine their strategic goals to dramatically increase profit margins and market share over the next several years. They needed to reduce energy costs, improve operational efficiency and create a culture of continuous improvement in order to achieve their goals. The company contacted California Manufacturing Technology Consulting (CMTc), a NIST MEP network affiliate, for assistance with the implementation of initiatives to reduce costs and establish a culture of continuous improvement.

Solution:

CMTc's food consulting group met with Two Chefs on a Roll to discuss how the company could achieve their vision. CMTc assisted in recruiting an internal champion for their continuous improvement initiative, and developing a Lean transformation plan. The Lean Transformation projects included basic Lean manufacturing concepts and simulation training for managers and employees; a Value Energy Stream Map (VSM) to identify energy savings opportunities; Kaizen improvement events to reduce energy, production and inventory costs; and ISO 22000 assessment and implementation. The Kaizen improvement event in one processing area resulted in a 72 percent decrease in changeover time, while reducing energy consumption and increasing capacity and productivity by 15 percent. A second Kaizen event using the Lean tool of Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) resulted in increased equipment uptime by 80 percent. With recent company growth, CMTc also focused on improving plant layout to increase efficiency and reduce floor space. Using Lean methodologies, the company increased inventory accuracy and developed the infrastructure required to support ISO 22000:2005 certification.

Results:

- * Realized cost savings of 28 percent.
- * Increased productivity by 4 percent.
- * Created 73 new jobs.

Testimonial:

"We highly recommend CMTc. Their training and assistance led to adaptation of Lean principles and sustained improvement."

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Eric Schmaranzer, Director, Supply Chain and Continual Improvement